Love them OUT LOUD
Rhyme Time
Soda Cracker

Gently bounce baby, lift baby up, and give baby a hug as you move through the verses.

Acka backa soda cracker
Acka backa boo
Acka backa soda cracker
Up goes you!

Acka backa soda cracker
Acka backa boo
Acka backa soda cracker
I love you!
ONE, TWO,
Buckle My Shoe

One, two,
Buckle my shoe.
Three, four,
Open the door.
Five, six,
Pick up sticks.
Seven, eight,
Lay them straight.
Nine, ten,
A big, fat hen.
BUMPING Up & Down

Gently bounce then rock baby on your knees.

Bumping up and down in my little red wagon,
Bumping up and down in my little red wagon,
Bumping up and down in my little red wagon,
Won’t you be my darling?

Rocking back and forth in my big yellow boat,
Rocking back and forth in my big yellow boat,
Rocking back and forth in my big yellow boat,
Won’t you be my darling?
**DID YOU EVER SEE A BABY?**

To the tune of “The More We Get Together”
With your baby sitting in your lap, gently rock her side to side, forward and back.

Did you ever see a baby,
A baby, a baby?
Did you ever see a baby,
Go this way and that?

Go this way and that way,
And that way and this way.
Did you ever see a baby,
Go this way and that?
Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
Jack jump over
The candlestick.
Gently bounce baby on your knees, substitute your baby’s name for “Baby”, and part your knees to let her slip on “IN.”

Trit, trot to Boston, Trit, trot to Lynn, Take care, Baby, Don’t fall IN!
Higglety Pigglety Pop

Gently bounce to the rhythm of the rhyme.

Higglety pigglety pop.
The dog has eaten the mop.
The pig’s in a hurry,
The cat’s in a flurry,
Higglety pigglety pop!
These are baby’s fingers, toes and tummy as the rhyme moves along.

These are baby’s fingers, These are baby’s toes, This is baby’s belly button, Round and round it goes!
CHOO CHOO

Train

Slowly crawl fingers up baby’s arms, and back down, to the words.

Choo, choo, choo, choo,
Choo, choo, choo, choo,
Choo, choo, choo, choo, choo,
Up the railroad track.

Choo, choo, choo, choo,
Choo, choo, choo, choo,
Choo, choo, choo, choo, choo,
And then it comes Right back.
Ducklings, ducklings, All in a row. One, two, three, four, See how they go. Left, right, left, right, Look how tame. Quack, quack, quack, quack, Down Puddleduck Lane.

Count and lightly tug at baby’s fingers/toes, gently bouncing baby during the last line.
ROUND & ROUND
The Garden

Make a circle with your finger in baby’s palm, finger-walk up and tickle under baby’s arm for each verse.

Round and round
The garden,
Goes the teddy bear.
One step, two steps,
Tickle under there.

Round and round
The haystack,
Goes the little mouse.
One step, two steps,
Into his little house.
The itsy bitsy spider
Climbed up the water spout.
Down came the rain and
Washed the spider out.

Out came the sun and
Dried up all the rain.
And the itsy bitsy spider
Climbed up the spout again.
Love them OUT LOUD
WHY YOU NEED TO love them out loud

Talk, Sing, Play, Read.

Your baby is listening. Listening and learning. Recent research found that children with larger vocabularies at age two entered kindergarten better prepared academically, and could control their behavior better than their peers. Additionally, educators now say the key to a more successful life is directly connected to reading achievement.

So... love your baby out loud!
Your baby loves the sound of your voice! The more you talk together, the happier and more engaged your little one will be. Even though your baby doesn’t exactly know what you’re saying, keep talking—they learn to interact through language and lots of facial expressions. You can talk about your day, how much you love them, or whatever’s on your mind. The key is to keep the conversations going!
Research has shown that there’s a direct link between how many words a baby hears each day and her language skills. You can help your baby learn vocabulary by naming the things you use together every day. Describe in detail your baby’s bottles, cups, toys, and food. When you notice your baby looking at something with attention, talk about it!

“Every home is a university and the parents are the teachers.”
- Mahatma Gandhi
Reading aloud to your baby is an awesome time to snuggle up close and enjoy each other’s company. If your baby only pays attention for a short time, don’t worry. Keep things positive and before you know it, he will be begging for “Just one more book... please!”

“There is no way to be a perfect mother, but a million ways to be a good one.”
- Jill Churchill
THE SENSE OF SIGHT develops gradually

When babies are born, they need to learn to focus their eyes, move them accurately, and use them together as a team. It takes about six to eight months before babies can see as well as you do. When you read to your baby, **hold books about 8-12 inches from their face** to provide the best view.
Music is the rhythm of the soul, and for babies, the melodies and patterns of songs stimulate brain development. Singing helps babies learn new sounds and words.
You can make book time the perfect time for developing your loving relationship. Try reading when your baby is fed, dry and wakeful. Make lots of eye contact and talk with expression. Your baby will come to associate book time and these loving experiences with YOU! And, before you know it, she will love reading books too.

“I may not be able to give my kids everything they want but I give them what they need. Love, time, and attention.”
- Nishan Panwar
Ever notice how your voice tends to go up in pitch when you talk to a baby? Keep up the good work! Research shows that talking to babies with real words (‘water’, not ‘wah-wah’), in higher-pitched voices and exaggerated melodies helps them learn to talk.
Babies love books with high-contrast pictures and bright, bold colors because they are easier for them to see. Add color to their world, and many things will come into focus.
For babies, playtime is much more than just fooling around – it’s actually how they learn! Play gives your baby opportunities to explore new things and gain a better understanding of the world around them. When you join your baby in their play, you are improving language and social skills, as well as increasing your baby’s attention span.
BE A copy cat!

When your baby makes those cute and funny noises (you know the ones), be sure to return the favor. Copying your baby’s sounds, or repeating your baby’s silly actions, teaches them how to imitate, which is how they learn!
HELPING YOU help your baby

Your Dayton Metro Library offers all kinds of free and wonderful resources for you and your baby. We’re ready to make sure you’re ready—every step of the way.

At DaytonMetroLibrary.org
• Sign up for Quick Text Tips and get useful info sent right to your phone!

• Subscribe to our enewsletter: Focus on Early Childhood Literacy.

• Check out our Early Literacy Blog to learn new ways to build literacy at home.

• Get recommendations on book titles that work for you and your baby.

At Our Branches
• Participate in special programs and Storytime events.

• Find books, music, Sprout Backpacks, and more for you and your baby.

• Use a computer to explore all the great online resources available for you.

• Interact and share experiences with other community members who are loving their babies out loud.
“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.”

- Benjamin Franklin
“Love Them Out Loud” is a Dayton Metro Library program that promotes early childhood literacy and development by providing resources and support to parents and caregivers throughout Montgomery County, Ohio. Thank you to all of our partners who share our dedication to creating a brighter future, one child at a time.

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